

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a multicast network which permits client nodes to join only a source-specific multicast group, when a multicast group join request is received from a client node provided with an any-source multicast management protocol, a multicast router translates the join request into a join request for a source-specific multicast group by applying a source server address of the multicast group searched from a multicast source address table on the basis of an address of an incoming line of the join request and the multicast group address designated in the join request.